The V.I.L.E. Museum Robbery and the Voracity of 'Angels'

Posted originally on the Archive of Our Own at https://archiveofourown.org/works/21512539.

Rating:	Teen And Up Audiences
Archive Warning:	Graphic Depictions Of Violence
Categories:	F/F, F/M, Multi, Other
Fandoms:	Carmen Sandiego (Cartoon 2019), Steven Universe (Cartoon), She-Ra and the Princesses of Power (2018), Mnemosyne | RIN - Daughters of Mnemosyne
Relationships:	Asougi Rin/Mimi, Julia "Jules" Argent/Carmen Sandiego, Adora (She-Ra)/Pearl (Steven Universe), Lapis Lazuli/Peridot (Steven Universe), Julia "Jules" Argent & Chase Devineaux, Adora (She-Ra)/Carmen Sandiego | Black Sheep, Mimi & Genta, Adora (She-Ra) & Mimi (Mnemosyne)
Characters:	Asougi Rin, Mimi (Mnemosyne), Julia "Jules" Argent, Carmen Sandiego | Black Sheep, Chase Devineaux, Lapis Lazuli (Steven Universe), Peridot (Steven Universe), Adora (She-Ra), Pearl (Steven Universe), Laura (Mnemosyne), Steven Universe, Greg Universe, Genta (Mnemosyne), Player (Carmen Sandiego 2019), Angels (Mnemosyne), Amazonite [Original Character], Peadora [Original Character], Carl the Security Guard [Original Character]
Additional Tags:	Magic, Crystal Gems, Alternate Universe - Crystal Gems (Steven Universe), Alternate Universe - Fantasy, Fantasy, Multiple Crossovers, Crossovers & Fandom Fusions, Crossover Pairings, Emotional Hurt/Comfort, Emotional Hurt, Emotional Baggage, Swords & Sorcery, Established Relationship, Implied Relationships, Developing Relationship, Developing Friendships, Father-Son Relationship, Beach City, Earth, Yuri, Surveillance, The Crystal Gems lying to Steven...again, Steven and Greg Bonding, Call of the...wild Adora, Time Fruits galore!, Quantum Mechanics, Museums, archives, Drinking to Cope, New rappers on the block, Time Skips, Japanese Character(s), Japanese Culture, Japan, Japanese, English, Utena and Anthy are friends with Lapis and Peridot, Vodka, Adora the clothes swapper, space-time continuum, Partial Nudity, Blood and Injury, Underage Drinking, Podfic Welcome
Language:	English
Series:	Part 16 of An Unlikely Alliance Against Evildoers
Stats:	Published: 2019-11-21 Words: 7,936 Chapters: 1/1

The V.I.L.E. Museum Robbery and the Voracity of 'Angels'

by lefemmerouge

Summary

A month after Adora and Carmen's date in the Floridian Archipelago...Jules asks a private detective agency to help her find the perpetrator who robbed the V.I.L.E. Museum...immortals Mimi and Rin are on the case, joined not only by Carmen, but by Adora, Pearl, Lapis, and Peridot. Can they find the culprit...without being attacked by vicious 'angels,' who hunt for immortals, or the deadly assassin, Laura? Or will they be too late?

Notes

Originally I had used Japanese translations, but I recently revised it to bring it back to only English. However, Rin and Mimi would talk in Japanese until Julia's line "Before I describe how you can help, I'd prefer to talk in English, as my Japanese is a little rusty," and in the paragraph beginning with the line "Hanging up, Mimi questioned her," then English later. I again shortened Peridot to Peri throughout this narrative. To be clear, I don't like (or support) underage drinking. Adora is experimenting on Earth...also, due to the nature of RIN: Daughters of Mnemosyne, it was inevitable...perhaps it shows she is growing up. Interpret it how you want. The "graphic depictions of violence" is for one part later on in the story. I am not doing to say what it is, but it definitely gets a bit violent.

Comments are welcome and appreciated.

Update on 2/6/25: I cross-posted this fic onto Squidge World with the same name. I made revised text and phrasing in this fic to make it stronger when doing this update. The changed text has been posted here, overwriting the previous text. If you wish to read the previous text, without those changes, feel free to read it on Wattpad. Updated some wording on 6/5/25, to improve this fic.

See the end of the work for more notes

A dark-green-haired woman groaned. Her black buttoned-up vest and white-collared Oxford shirt, which was covered by a dark blue tie in a Windsor knot, was a striking look. She placed her hand on her head, like she did every morning. Sitting in a chair tilted toward a window, she peered out the closed blinds. She looked through her black-rimmed glasses inquisitively.

She cried out and called for her office assistant. "Mimi, some water?"

Her assistant shouted back. "Coming!"

Mimi, with lavender hair, entered the room. She wore a white-collared Oxford shirt over top an orange midriff, and sporting blue short shorts, fastened with a brown belt. She hadn't worn this outfit in a long time, not since the early 1990s. Instead, she wore a laced pink shirt, white shirt, and tan shorts most days. Today, she felt like bringing the style back.

She set down a metal tray on the table, with a clang. On the tray were a few shot glasses and half-bottle of vodka. She poured herself a drink and began to swallow.

Suddenly, she pulled in the woman by her tie, intensely kissing her, causing the alcohol to traverse down her throat. The woman coughed into her hand as she ingested the liquor.

"You know, Rin, vodka means "water" in Russian," Mimi teased. Rolling her eyes, Rin snickered. Mimi said that she "figured she'd like it, anyway." Rin responded. "I guess you are right."

Mimi came in closer, gazing at Rin adoringly, who was flustered. Placing her hand in front of her mouth, she seemed alarmed by her partner’s forwardness. "Hey, take it easy, Rin, what about…"

Mimi tried to reassure her partner that *they would be fine*. "Relax, don't worry…"

As she poured another shot of vodka for her, they smooched and moaned in ecstasy. The phone ringing off the hook interrupted their tender moment. Mimi tried to stop Rin from grabbing the cordless phone, holding back her arm, but her attempts were a failure. "Hello. This is Asogi Consulting. How may I help you?"

A young woman answered the phone. She spoke in a soft voice. "Before I describe how you can help, I'd prefer to talk in English, as my Japanese is a... little rusty."

Rin shook her head. She wished she had *more* Japanese-speaking customers. But business was business.

"Of course. What seems to be the problem?"

The woman sighed. She introduced herself.

"I'm Julia Argent, the curator of the V.I.L.E. Museum and Archives. It's terrible, they wrecked the place…who would do such a thing?"

Rin was intrigued. She asked a further question to clarify something Julia had said.

"Who is 'they'?"

Julia rapidly responded. "I'm not sure…I think I know who it is…I hope you can assist me in finding the culprit."

Rin encouraged her to come by their office. "Sure, come by our office and we'd love to chat with you."

That is not something Julia wanted. She wanted someone to come to the scene of the crime.

"It'd probably be better if you come here and observe…for yourself…*the damage done*. It's 18000 Ākaibu Hyōka Abenyū."

Rin silently grumbled. She wished more would come into the office rather than always having to go to a crime scene.

Short, and to the point, she told Julia, "Alright. I'll be right there."

After hanging up the phone, Mimi began questioning her. Rin recounted what the woman had told her.

"Some robbery in this new museum in Tokyo that just opened last week. I've never heard of it. The curator sounded distraught about what happened. We'll *probably* have to speak English to them."

Mimi tried to convince Rin to come along. "Let's both go."

Her persuasion was not successful. Rin *wanted* Mimi to stay behind.

"But…you are the hacker extraordinaire, the IT, financial management person of this office… shouldn't you stay here with Genta?"

Mimi would not let this stand. She continued to push her case.

"I will not accept this. After Koki died eight years ago on that tanker near Death Island, I *can't* just sit around here and twiddle my thumbs."

Realizing she would never win against an insistent Mimi, Rin said curtly "Fine…you can come along."

Overjoyed, Mimi hugged her and squealed. "Yay! Thanks so much, Rin, *you're the best*!"

Thirty or so minutes later, they reached their destination: the V.I.L.E. Museum and Archives. The whole place was cordoned off by police tape and protected by a line of people who all wore black suits, ties, and dark sunglasses. These people held guns in their hands. They were unlike anything Rin or Mimi had ever seen, emblazoned with A.C.M.E. logos

Stepping forward to the police barricade, one of the agents demanded answers.

"Please state your business. What do you want with the V.I.L.E. Museum and Archives?"

Rin answered. "The curator called us. We are from Asogi Consulting."

The guard nodded. "Go right ahead. She is *expecting you*."

An agent opened the door and directed them toward her office. Climbing the spiral stairs, they arrived at a hallway. After passing a door marked "MAINTENANCE" and others engraved with names of employees but not mentioning the title of Curator, one stood out to them apart from the others. It was inscribed "JULIA ARGENT. CURATOR." Rin matter-of-factly stated, "this is the one," and opened the door.

A woman with a smiling face stared at them and politely asked them to sit. She introduced herself and shook their hands.

"Hi, I'm Julia Argent, the curator of this museum. You can call me Jules or Ms. Argent."

Rin introduced herself. "Ms. Argent, a pleasure to meet you. I'm Rin Asogi and this is my assistant, Mimi."

Julia, nervous, tried to keep the conversation going. "Sorry to bring you in at such short notice. I *never* expected anything like this would happen."

Rin wanted to know what happened. Mimi began taking notes. "Ms. Argent, tell us what transpired."

Breathing deeply, Julia began telling her story.

> *Yesterday, I was locking up my office and departing the building, as I do everyday before I leave work. As I walked down the stairs, I heard a large crash and some quickly footfall. When I queried one of the security officers, he told me they were in pursuit of an unidentified assailant. While that shook me, he assured me that I should go home and come back the next day. When I came in this morning, the building had been cordoned off, allowing for an assessment for the damaged artifacts and property. Nothing had been taken, not even any of the weapons. However, one of our most precious items, a red overcoat, and hat belonging to Carmen Sandiego couldn't be found. She donated them to the museum last week, as a keepsake, although she preferred to... keep her gadgets.*

Rin was intrigued. If such a woman had fashion sense like that, she *had* to meet her.

"Can we meet this Ms. Sandiego?" she asked.

Gleefully, Julia answered. "You surely can. She is flying here *right now*."

Before Rin could say a word, Mimi looked at her, completely confused. "Flying? Huh?"

Julia laughed and snorted. She knew it would be hard for other people to understand.

"Yup. She has an awesome hang glider backpack she showed me back in France, where we finally got to understand each other in *a deeper way*…"

Suddenly, they heard a knock. Mimi and Rin apprehensively prepared themselves. Jules knew *exactly* who it was.

The door swung open with a slam. A five-foot-seven-inch woman, wearing red high heels, a red trench coat, and a red fedora, stepped in.

"Hi, Jules! *So happy* to see you…again. Glad this worked out. How's the museum going?"

Julia fired back with a quick retort, even though Carmen being there made her a little nervous. "Great, Carm…That's *why* you are here, actually."

Carmen was surprised, only uttering one word "Oh."

Julia explained what happened just the day before. "Someone stole that red fedora and red trench coat you donated to us."

Carmen began to become enraged. She could not understand why someone would steal clothes which were so beautiful at least from her own perspective.

"That scoundrel! Do they not have any fashion sense? Ugh!"

Julia chuckled. She knew that Carmen could always make her feel better. "I am eager for you to *help me* in finding the perpetrator."

Carmen was puzzled. If she had been scheduled to come there, *why* had Julia asked two other people to come there too?

"If that's the case, then *who* are these two women?" Julia explained in plain terms.

"They are private detectives from Asogi Consulting, Mimi and Rin."

Carmen now understood. She always knew that Julia would do the right thing.

"Let me introduce myself. I am Carmen Sandiego as you might presume. Happy to make your acquaintance."

Rin got up out of her seat and shook Carmen's hand. "As it is ours, Ms. Sandiego."

After walking out of the room, and grabbing a clipboard, Jules slammed the door behind her and locked it with a key. As they proceeded down the hallway, Carmen teased her while she laughed nervously.

Mimi and Carmen walked side by side, as did Jules and Rin.

"Ms. Sandiego, what's with these 'A.C.M.E.' symbols I keep seeing…and what is V.I.L.E.?" Mimi asked.

Before Carmen could explain about A.C.M.E. and V.I.L.E. to a curious Mimi, Jules spoke first.

"I used to be part of the Agency to Classify and Monitor Evildoers, otherwise identified as A.C.M.E. It's a police force and a detective agency. After the defeat of V.I.L.E., I resolved to leave the organization and head this museum. I am still on good terms with them and their leadership. Answering your second question requires a bit more explanation. Sometime late in the 20th century, several villainous individuals came together and formed a secretive organization to do their bidding. They called it the Villains International League of Evil, or V.I.L.E. for short, engaging in crime as a profitable business, rigging stock markets, stealing important objects, and so on. Ms. Sandiego is a former member of the organization. She left and vowed to be a thief who stole from them."

Mimi probed deeper. She wanted to know who this "Ms. Argent" really was. She asked, pointedly, "So, Carmen, how'd you meet someone like Ms. Argent?"

Carmen knew that Mimi and Rin were good people. So she decided to spill the beans. "If you must know, Mimi, *she used* to chase me for A.C.M.E in hopes of putting me behind bars."

She continued. "After *the loss* of my friends, Ivy and Zack, I worked with these detectives and my new friends to bring down V.I.L.E." She explained that after that point, she talked with Jules a bit, but saw other people, like this "blonde-haired woman in the Floridian Archipelago" a month before.

If that wasn't enough, she added one final tidbit: she had "a delicious dinner at a fancy French restaurant" that past Friday. Following this, they were atop the Eiffel Tower with the wind blowing in their hair, and they smooched under the moonlight. Her eyes lit up, as she added "I can remember that night like it was yesterday."

Mimi was a little surprised. But she was *happy* for her.

"That's *sweet.* So…Ms. Argent...is your girlfriend?" she asked innocently, trying to confirm her suspicion.

Carmen happily replied. "Why, of course. *What else* would she be?"

Jules' cheeks turned as red as a ripe tomato. She hadn't expected Carmen to mention their relationship, but she *wasn't* angry at her for doing so.

"Sorry, I forgot to mention that…ever since we met in Lyons, France, after her date with that blonde-haired woman…we hit it off…we have only been *steadily dating* since last week, since understanding each other is an important first step to a strong friendship or relationship."

Mimi tried to reassure her. She didn't want either of them to think that something was wrong.

"Don't be ashamed about it, Ms. Argent! Me and Rin have been together since 1990, at the earliest, running a detective agency together…I look out for her…and she looks out for me."

Rin felt compelled to respond, completely endorsing Mimi's sentiment. This was unusual, but she felt she had to. "Mimi is right…I am so delighted to have her as a friend…and *a confidante*."

Continuing to chat, everyone stepped into an elevator. Jules punched in a code into the keypad and they descended. A recorded voice softly stated: "going down."

An electronic ding signaled arrival on the first floor, also announced by the same voice.

The elevator opening, Carmen, Jules, Rin, and Mimi stepped onto the hard linoleum floor. Pulling out her clipboard, she stared down at the paper titled 'Inventory of V.I.L.E. Museum and Archives' with the words 'after theft on June 6th' scrawled in pen. The accession numbers of every item in their collection were coupled with other pages giving short archival descriptions.

Everything had been checked off as present except the red fedora and red trench coat, given the number of 2019.112, indicating its year and that it was the 112th item the museum had acquired. The entry had been circled multiple times, overlaid with the word "MISSING" in big block letters. As Rin examined the broken glass on the ground, Jules brought them to the empty glass case where Carmen's outfit had hung, before the theft

"It seems like the assailant was pretty clumsy, as the glass cases are barely damaged…like this person *had desperately* tried to escape. There might be some fingerprints on the glass. Do you have security cameras? I don't see any around," Rin remarked. Julia explained about the security in the building.

"The cameras are hidden so we can watch our visitors to ensure none of the items are damaged and to prevent theft. I'll take you to the surveillance room."

Jules and Carmen's high heels echoed down the corridor with a clack-clack-clack sound. In no time at all, they reached a doorway marked 'SURVEILLANCE. SECURITY PERSONNEL ONLY.'Jules knocked on the door, announcing herself.

"Ms. Argent, please come on in. We've been expecting you."

Julia playfully jested him. "Carl, you don't have to say it like that…"

Carl snickered. He liked to be friendly with everyone and put a smile on their faces.

"…I'm only messing with you, Ms. Argent."

She laughed a little in response. "Oh, stop. I thought I'd bring in *my girlfriend* and my acquaintances from a private detective agency, Mimi and Rin."

Carl was surprised at the fact Carmen was at the museum, but he knew that she would come to the museum at some point. After all, she *helped* ensure the museum was created in the first place.

"A pleasure to meet you both…and Ms. Sandiego. Ms. Argent talks about you often."

Carmen acted aghast, although she *wasn't* that surprised. "She does…really?"

Julia quickly tried to change the topic of the conversation. She didn't want it to be about her relationship with Carmen.

"Okay…moving on from that…let's view the surveillance footage from last night."

Carl was okay with moving onto the business at hand. The *last thing* he wanted was for Jules to be uncomfortable in the workplace. "Certainly, Ms. Argent. Pulling it up now."

Mimi, Rin, Jules, and Carmen watched the video recording from 5:00 P.M. the previous day. The assailant, who was almost six feet fall, wore a brownish jacket and had dark brown hair.

His boisterous French accent could be heard loud and clear. "Ms. Argent will get it now! I can teach her a lesson! Nyeh."

The next line gave a further clue of who the assailant was. "Let me just get into this overcoat and hat. Everyone will think I am…whoa…le femme rouge! This floor is so slippery…ah! Glass…is everywhere!"

Jules turned off the recording. She sighed. She *knew* the name of the perpetrator.

"I didn't want to think so, but it's my old partner when we were detectives…Chase Devineaux…he was overconfident, foolhardy, and clumsy…he destroyed a few A.C.M.E. cars 'by accident'…and I had to act like tech support to help him…he really humiliated me…but now he wants to come back into my life…what a jerk!"

Carmen tried to calm down Jules. She didn't want her to feel bad about herself.

"Its ok. We can catch him together, using the combined strengths of us, Mimi, and Rin."

Mimi snickered. She snarkily added, "He didn't even say the phrase right, it's not 'le femme rouge,' its 'la femme rouge,' French for 'the red woman.' Man, this guy is losing his touch!"

Rin excoriated Mimi in front of Carmen and Jules. "Mimi! You aren't even acquainted with him…" she said.

Mimi shot back, saying "I'm fluent in many languages, whether English, Japanese, French, Spanish, and so many more...I *couldn't* be such an excellent hacker if I didn't learn different languages! This is so much fun! Why didn't you bring me on more cases?"

When Rin began to speak, about to justify herself, Mimi shouted. "No matter! Let's go find this robber!"

Rin tried to get Mimi off her case. "Shouldn't you be back in the office, helping us by uh…*hacking into stuff*?" she asked her girlfriend.

Ignoring the insult, Mimi thought of one way to get Rin on her side. She declared that it was better to be there at the museum because she got to "spend quality time" with her.

Rin felt embarrassed. She said, sheepishly, "Mimi…*come on*…not in front of our client..."

Her lips puckered up, Rin pulled away at the last second, causing Mimi to get a little discombobulated. Angrily, she scolded Rin. She shouted at her in Japanese, saying "You are the worst! Why'd you do that!"

They continued to argue back and forth, with insults flying. Mimi called Rin kuso (shitty) and babaa (bastard). Rin defended herself from these attacks. Carmen butted in. She knew how to defuse the situation.

Carmen shouted in Japanese. "Girls! You can argue on your own time. We need to catch the thief. I have the solution for you both."

She then explained that it was fine that Mimi stay with them. She explained that her friend was a hacker, and that he could "tap into the surveillance network for the whole city of Tokyo."

Mimi thanked Carmen and taunted Rin before Carmen told her to knock it out. She reminded them that they *needed* to stay together as a stable unit. Jules told her that Chase likely had few friends at INTERPOL, where he formerly worked, and asked her how they would search the entire city.

Carmen said there were some people who could help them. Jules was confused and unsure what to say. Carmen smiled back. "Come outside. You can meet them."

Stepping outside, with the light shining in their eyes, two figures stood before them. They both had their hoods up. One wore a blue hoodie with two vertical holes running down the back, with orange drawstrings, blue short shorts, and tan sandals. The other had on a dark green hoodie emblazoned with a lighter green alien symbol and the word "believe" in yellow letters on the pocket.

Without warning, both began rapping. No one could stop them.

"Yo, we are Lapis and Peri/

'I can manipulate water like a pro/

'I can levitate metallic objects on the contrary/

'It's a lot better than an ice show/

'Today, we got Carm's call/

'Came to the hood/

'To visit Utena and Anthy at nightfall/

'But now it's all good/

'We come from Beach City/

'That thief is a real jerk/

'We'll show him with a little ditty/

'This case will be a real piece of work/

'We have an online talk show/

'Carmen is our friend/

'We see more than you'd know/

'Even if she has a new girlfriend/

'That's all we have to say/

'Hope you liked our song/

'Just came up with it today/

'Can we come along?/

Carmen clapped and shouted "bravo!" Julia wasn't sure what to think. She whispered into the ears of Lapis and Peri about the identities of their two other associates, to bring them up to speed.

The rap fascinated Mimi. At the same time Rin grumbled, but agreed to let Lapis and Peri join them. They replied, singing the word "Hooray!" in unison, as they put their hoods down.

A still-skeptical Rin was surprised when she heard a fluttering and whooshing sound, observing blue, transparent wings come out of Lapis's back. She now understood how Lapis could help. She had the ability to control water. On the other hand, Peri seemed, despite her ability to control the movement of metallic objects, less useful. That is until she learned that Peri had a knack for technology, like Mimi and Carmen's unnamed hacker friend, something which would give them an upper hand in searching for the elusive Chase Devineaux.

Rin sighed. She explained the danger they faced, talking about the so-called "angels" they had to fight off:

"The Yggdrasil tree distributes small orbs across this world, a small percentage of which are *time fruits*…if they enter a female, like me and Mimi, they become immortal…but if it enters

a male, the person becomes *a fanatical winged being* called an 'Angel'…Apos is the worst of all the 'angels,' trying to hunt down immortals…he even hired an assassin, Laura, well-skilled with weapons, like firearms, to...*kill me*."

Carmen said that she hoped that Chase is the only one they need to deal with. She proceeded to introduce her two friends, Adora and Pearl, who could *also* help them.

Jules shook her head. At the same time, Pearl thought she might mess up and embarrass herself. She dedicated herself to seeing this through.

"Sorry for such an abrupt entrance, but as the jacket squad we had to come in style," Pearl remarked.

Snickering, Carmen prepared a zinger. "Pearl might have her cyan blazer and ballet flats, but *I have* a sweet jean jacket, a rad tie-dye t-shirt colored by Lapis and Peri, made from their hemp crops, and some jean shorts...hehe."

Rin then explained the danger of the "angels" to them. Pearl said that because she, Lapis, and Peri, were light-composed beings, the beasts *couldn't* hurt them. She also told them that she could fuse with Adora, and said that fusion could be a possible way to protect them from harm... if needed.

Jules' tablet made a loud beeping noise. Opening it, she grinned gleefully. The RFID chip had worked, allowing her to track Chase's exact location.

"I can tell you where Chase is…it's all on my tablet."

After Carmen asked her how this was possible. Jules explained that they place RFID chips on every one of our items to "ensure that if someone steals them, we can track their location."

Carmen grumbled, thinking about the possible privacy implications. Jules said that the chip is making their search easier. Further annoying Carmen was the fact that Player *wouldn't* return her calls. She gave her device to Peri, who called him instead, hoping to reach him, somehow.

Snickering with delight, she began dialing the number Carmen gave her for Player. Before that, she *had only* communicated with him online, apart from their video chat in the Peri-Shack. So, it would come as quite a shock.

"Hello…Player! We need your skills to solve this case," Peri remarked.

Player was shocked. He never expected to talk to Peri, at least not on a video call.

He angrily asked, "Peridot…is that you? I didn't think *you'd* ever call…*who* gave you this number?"

While Peri was annoyed with his hostile response, she breathed deeply and tried to remain calm. She explained what happened and *why* she had Carmen's device.

"Carmen gave it to me. Someone stole the trench coat and fedora she gave to that museum in Japan…run by *her girlfriend*…Carmen tried to get in contact with you…but you *didn't*

answer."

Player tried to remain apologetic. He explained why he hadn't answered Carmen.

"I'm sorry…about that…The microwave heating up one of those great frozen meals, some tasty spaghetti with cheese sauce, part of the Trim Culinary Delight brand…probably muffled the sound. She has a girlfriend now?...I wasn't aware…"

Peri *did not* want to get involved in interpersonal matters between friends. So she suggested that they talk about that matter alone. Clearing her throat, she asked him if he could "get access to all the surveillance footage in Tokyo."

He smiled. He then told her, "I sure can, in the blink of an eye! *Who* are you searching for?"

Peri explained that they ere searching for Chase Devineaux, the "former detective and partner of Jules."

Player understood her request and told her that he'd like Carmen know *as soon* as he had the information.

Adora and Pearl stood in front of them, clearly *enraged*. They envisioned the search spiraling out of control. Both said, in unison, that neither would participate *until* everyone had done the proper planning.

Before Rin could say anything, Mimi jumped in to respond. "What a splendid idea! Let's regroup at the Asogi Consulting office."

Rin cautioned about people at their office. She remarked in Japanese, "Mimi…we aren’t ready for company, it's a mess there."

Mimi tried to reassure her. She told her partner, still speaking in Japanese, "No, its fine, don’t worry about a thing."

Rin begrudgingly accepted this. She then said, in speaking in English once again, "We’ll show you the way. Lapis, you can fly some of the others there, following our car."

Lapis grinned. She told them that she'd see them there.

Mimi's small car could only fit five people, with Rin driving, Mimi in the passenger seat, Carmen and Jules in the backseat. Adora decided to join them, with Pearl riding with Peri on Lapis's back. As they drove away, Carmen whispered to Adora about the news she had learned from Player: the probe watching them in the Tampa Lagoon wasn't from V.I.L.E. and matched no records of Earth machines. Hearing this, she exclaimed.

"Not from Earth?...there's only one person… who could possibly construct such a thing… Entrapta…on Etheria. That's impossible…how would something like that get here?"

Carmen shrugged her shoulders. "Perhaps through a portal of some kind" she said innocently. Little did they know but *Perfuma* had been the one that constructed these probes, *not*

Entrapta.

Mimi jumped in their conversation. "Could be through a quantum fluctuation...an expression of improbability on the quantum level…the outcome would vary, as there is inevitable quantum entanglement…this means that when a particle goes through time and space from an interaction to another interaction, that particle could fluctuate through previous interactions…," she began.

Shaking her head, Adora was all confused. "Um…could you explain that more simply?" she asked.

Mimi tried to make it simpler. "I'll try. It is posited, as a part of quantum mechanics, that the vacuum of space isn't empty but is filled with particles and quantum energy, each coming into and out of existence for a moment, giving off signals known as quantum fluctuations."

Carmen asked her how this related to an inter-dimensional portal, something she had read about in a science fiction magazine once, and came to her mind at that very moment.

Mimi giddily remarked, "Quantum mechanics *could* explain how the probe you saw could travel from a far-away world to Earth, I think…"

Adora interrupted, shaking her finger. She knew Mimi was not right. "I came here from Etheria through an inter-dimensional gateway of some kind, traveling through a wormhole and then came to Earth through a portal created by a magical pink lion."

Trying to maintain her composure, Mimi said, "Okay…then…Well, if the probes are from Etheria, this 'Entrapta' person you speak of could have sent them through the wormhole…or tapped into the wormhole's energy…sending them to Earth. If we could only get a hand on one of those…"

Hearing all this, Rin added the only words she'd say during the entire conversation. "Mimi, science lesson is over. *We're here*."

The car stopped. Mimi parked it in front of a tall anonymous-looking office building. Lapis came down to the sidewalk. She sloughed Peri and Pearl off her back. Everyone climbed the stairs and soon walked into the office.

They were greeted by a barking Genta. She was an immortal dog and could survive being shot without having any injury. Lapis and Peri giggled. They wondered how Pumpkin would interact in this situation.

The main office could usually only seat one person. As such, having five more people in the room made it a bit cramped. Even so, it proved manageable. They gathered around the room's desk. Rin sat in a swivel chair behind it. Pearl took out a chalkboard from her Gem, complete with pieces of chalk, to draw up plans.

Chatting about how to get Chase, with Player noting what he had found from surveillance footage, Mimi queried if anyone would like "water." Most people turned down her offer. One person accepted: Adora. Since she was so deep into strategizing with Lapis, Peri, Pearl,

Carmen, and Jules, Rin didn't hear Mimi's request. As such, she couldn't warn Adora about what Mimi meant.

Mimi soon came in carrying a metal tray, complete with two shot glasses and a bottle of vodka. She poured herself one shot glass and another for Adora. Seeing the bottle, Pearl immediately recognized it and warned her to not drink the substance. This failed. She put the shot glass to her mouth and gulped down the substance, her eyes opening wide. She felt alive unlike any time before.

"What…is that stuff? Its real strong but…I *think* like it," Adora said, inquisitively.

Mimi explained what this mysterious liquid was. "It's vodka, you *could* say it means "water" in Russian."

Snickering, Adora said, "I think I could get used to this…"

Mimi warned her to only use it in moderation. "Adora…vodka should be savored…it's something to wake you up, keep you alert…nothing more, nothing less…you don't need to gulp it down all at once."

Adora told Mimi she understood what she meant. Mimi moved closer and softly whispered into her ear. She spoke so quietly that no one could hear, not even Pearl.

"You wanna play a practical joke on everyone? It would be *really*…really fun!"

Adora felt apprehensive. She didn't want to leave Pearl, even for a second. She had come this far, through an inter-dimensional portal, and ended up in this world. She barely knew Mimi. She wasn't sure it was worth the risk. Mimi took her hand and dragged her out of the room. Adora hoped this wouldn't be a repeat of what Carmen and Pearl had done with her in the past. She announced to everyone she'd return soon. They nodded in reply.

Going into another room, Mimi began taking her clothes off, exposing her naked body. Adora stared in shock. She had no idea what was happening.

"Uh, what are you doing?" Adora said. She was in shock to have a woman openly change in *front of her*.

"Oh, I thought it would be fun if we switched outfits. You could wear my clothes, and I could wear yours," Mimi said.

Pondering it over, Adora told her it she would give it a try *because* it would "give a rise out of Pearl."

Mimi said it probably would give a rise out of Rin too. She curiously asked Adora what had brought her and Pearl together.

Not wanting to answer that not, Adora sidestepped it, remarking, "…that's *a long story* I'll have to tell you another day."

While Mimi was disappointed, she told her, "that's fair. I'll tell you about Rin someday too… let's go out there."

Stepping back into the room, Mimi announced their presence with the word. She yelled the word "surprise!"

Carmen, Jules, Lapis, and Peri chuckled, Rin didn't mind, but Pearl appeared flabbergasted. She didn't think Adora would wear the clothes of *another woman*. Such a rash action scared her a bit. She breathed deeply and accepted it. Later, as they walked out of the room, beginning the mission, Adora rushed to Pearl, eager to hear what she thought.

"Pearl, you appeared astonished…do you not like this getup? I can change it back," Adora said, a little nervous about how Pearl would respond.

The last thing Pearl wanted was to restrict her girlfriend's self-expression. She tried to encourage her the best she could.

"No, no, there isn't a need for that…keep exploring and you'll find your true calling on Earth. I had that expression on my face because I didn't expect it…that's all."

Getting closer to Pearl, she justified her actions, whispering, "I'm a person who is audacious. Are you forgetting how I necked Carmen on that date we had in the Floridian Archipelago… Or how I wanted to be closer to you on Etheria than you desired then…even trying to get a kiss?"

Pearl rolled her eyes. "Fine…yes, *I remember*. Now, let's catch Chase!"

Carmen flew in her hang glider. Lapis and Peri fused into Amazonite, carrying Jules, Adora, Rin, Mimi, and Pearl. She could carry more weight thanks to her expanded capabilities as a fused being.

Somehow, Chase had gotten out of Tokyo and all the way to Shiroi, an area recognized for its fruit-growing, including fruits like kiwi, grapes, and nashi pears. This area also served as a commercial center for nearby cities like Chiba and Tokyo, and as a commuter town of sorts. As they walked toward the signal, the location seemed strange: a small abandoned shack. Jules stepped inside alone and announced herself.

"Hello! It's Ms. Argent. Chase, are you there? I just want to talk."

Trembling, Chase slunk out from behind a column and revealed himself, haggard and fatigued. He beamed when he saw her face.

"Thank you, Ms. Argent, for coming. I'm sorry for stealing that coat and hat from your museum…I felt jealous you had such a position when A.C.M.E. left me behind…I slunk into depression, drinking, and it led me to commit the crime. You can take it back."

Jules was relieved. Although she didn't totally trust Chase, she wanted to understand why he was there.

"Thanks, Mr. Devineaux. Why are you here in this shack, all the way out here?" she asked.

Chase explained matter-of-factly why he was there. "It's these…winged creatures…they roam the streets and snatch up people…I had to get away from them…luckily none ever caught me…*you might* be in danger just by coming."

Jules tried to put him at ease. She told him, "Don't worry, I brought some friends with me."

Pearl, Adora, Carmen, Mimi, Rin, and Amazonite waved hello. It astounded him that "la femme rouge" stood before him as a friend *rather than* a foe. Even so, he graciously accepted her aid. When Rin asked him to describe these winged beasts, she knew exactly what he had seen: the so-called 'angels.' She directed Amazonite to take Carmen, Jules, and Chase back to Tokyo. Everyone else would prepare for a possible attack.

Even though both Carmen and Jules *wanted* to fight alongside their friends, they obeyed Rin's order, preparing to go back to the museum. Only Rin, Mimi, Adora, and Pearl remained. To protect Rin, Adora and Pearl fused into Peadora, a human-Gem form they had taken once n the past. This battle would be the first test of the fusion's powers.

From her Gem, Peadora retrieved some possible items that could be turned into weapons: a controller, a stapler, a suitcase, and a portable phone. Not needing the suitcase or stapler, Mimi quickly fashioned the other two items into an electric zapper. Suddenly, the walls of the shack were smashed apart. Two 'angels' stood there, defiantly. Everyone prepared themselves for the fight.

As Rin and Mimi were drawn to the angels, with an overwhelming urge, Mimi prepared to electrocute one. Rin kept shooting at the other with her pistol and hurting it with her throwing stars.

Peadora held four spears, one in each hand, firing upon the 'angel' in front of Mimi. Although it faltered, the being charged at her in an utmost rage. Pinning the 'angel' up against a wall, Mimi came from behind, electrocuting it, causing it to decompose into ash. Rin, who had run out of bullets and throwing stars, felt trapped by the other 'angel' who had come in for the kill.

Peadora and Mimi worked together to save her, easily turning the 'angel' turn into dust. Everyone breathed a sigh of relief. They vowed to leave as soon as possible. Pearl and Adora un-fused, so all four of them could plan together. Immediately, Pearl called Amazonite for help. She answered, telling them she hadn't arrived in Tokyo yet.

"Can you get here sooner? Those 'angels' attacked us and *almost killed* Mimi and Rin. We need a way out now! I'm not sure how much longer we can hold them off," Amazonite told her. Pearl responded, telling her "I'll come as fast as I can. Do what you can to hold yourselves together!" At their wits end, Amazonite told Pearl, "We'll try. Please hurry."

Stepping out of the shack and into the light, they walked down the city streets on their way back to Tokyo. Two so-called 'angels' approached them. Laura, the assassin hired by Apos to kill Rin, stood with them. had turned into a half-human, half-cyborg being. "Oh, Rin. It’s so nice to see you again. *Prepare to die!*"

She fired her pistols into Rin's body, with exploding rounds, causing blood to spurt out everywhere like a water glass with thousands of holes. She fell in agony. She felt helpless. Laura grabbed her neck and forced her to the ground, sneering at her. While Pearl wanted to help Rin, she needed to defend Mimi, since her device to electrocute 'angels' had begun to malfunction.

Making various hologram clones of herself, she held the 'angel' back, stabbing it, leading it to disintegrate into nothing. Realizing that being apart wasn't as workable being *together*, Adora and Pearl fused once more into Peadora. In this form, this gem fusion used the combined energy of four spears to fire one huge energy blast, completely annihilating the other 'angel'.

Rin, who had been mangled by Laura, had nothing to defend herself with. She accepted her fate, although she could regenerate. About to strike the final blow, she felt electricity coursing through her, causing her new body to overload. Peadora moved Mimi and Rin out of the way quickly so that Laura's detonation wouldn't hurt either one of them. Laura was dead for now. Everyone was relieved and continued walking toward Tokyo. On the way, Pearl and Adora unfused.

The first thing both could see was Rin's naked and bloodied body…from the back…making Pearl uneasy. "Take this shirt…you can wear it until you put on some proper clothes." Rin thanked everyone for saving her. "I can't be more grateful to you, Pearl…and Adora…and Mimi…without you, Laura would have beaten me…*again*. She always manages to kill me… but luckily, thanks to the time fruits, *I am immortal*."

Amazonite came down to the macadam street at the right time, landing in front of these weary women. Seeing their distress, she *immediately* ordered them to get on her back. Rin, Adora, Mimi, and Pearl complied, without a question in their minds. "Are you all okay? I'm worried…*especially* about Rin and Mimi," Amazonite remarked.

Rin explained that this wasn't a problem. There was a reason for this. "Me and Mimi are immortal, so *we'll rejuvenate*…Adora, Pearl, and Mimi saved me from being killed *again* by an assassin."

Amazonite was confused. She didn't understand how this was possible. "How can she kill you, if…"

Rin explained how this could be the case. She noted that "we are immortal, but we can be shot and stabbed…the wounds *can heal*…"

Nodding in agreement, Amazonite said that Mimi and Rin should go back to Tokyo. They all joked when looking at Rin's clothes. Embarrassed, Rin told her that her clothes were ripped up in the fight with the assassin, and it was why she was "wearing this red T-shirt with a yellow star on it instead."

After Amazonite asked where her specifically she's like to go, she told her, "Come back to *my place*…I can get dressed there and make you all something for your troubles."

Directing them to her apartment building, Amazonite landed in the foray and un-fused, much of their energy expended. Peadora did the same. After that, everyone hopped into the elevator, riding it up to the fifth floor. Rin opened the door, welcoming them into her lush abode. "I don't have company here *often*, so it might be a bit messy. Make yourself comfortable. I'll get dressed and out of this t-shirt."

Sitting on the couches, putting their feet up, *everyone* relaxed. Lapis and Peri fell asleep almost instantly, with Pearl doing so not long after. Adora stayed awake, as did Mimi. Rin came out from her bedroom, dressed in a soft orange two-part dress. She walked into the living room, holding the red t-shirt Pearl had given her. About to offer it to Pearl, when she saw her slumbering, she handed it to Adora, who accepted it.

Moving to the kitchen, she poured herself a glass of wine, offering Mimi and Adora glasses to drink for themselves, both of them acceded to her offer. Curious to know how Adora, a human, had ended up with the Gems, she posed a question comparable to what Mimi had asked earlier, making her a bit annoyed. "Adora, how'd you end up with a bunch of beings like them?"

She explained how this was possible. She told her of how "the Gems came onto my home planet one day…warping there through some sort of inter-dimensional gateway…I didn't like them *at first*, but they grew on me…Pearl especially. She shares a love of organization, tidiness, and order which I appreciate…"

Rin continued her questioning. "So, you're not from Earth?...fascinating…what planet are you from?"

While this line of questioning *continued* to be annoying, Adora decided to entertain Rin by responding.

"It's a planet called Etheria. You've probably never heard of it before," she said matter-of-factly. Rin told her that it wasn't that different.

"You're right…but being immortal is almost like being from another planet."

Mimi then piped in and said that she'd like to visit another planet someday in the future. Adora offered to bring her there in the future. Mimi said that would "be nice" after Apos is defeated.

Rin yawned, and told Adora, and Mimi, "I'd say we turn in and go to sleep. It's late and I have work tomorrow, like every day."

As Rin, left and readied herself for bed, Adora wished her a good night.

Mimi turned to Adora and bowed. She remained thankful for her actions during the day.

"Thanks so much for coming here…I *really* appreciate it. Oh, before I forget, I'd like to give you back the clothes you were wearing. Let me change quickly."

A few minutes later she came out in a nightgown, holding Adora's clothes in her hand, folded in a nice and neat pile. She *bowed* once more.

"Mimi, would you like back your clothes? I can easily change…" Mimi didn't mind someone wearing her clothes. She made that clear.

"No, it's okay, you can keep them. I have other pairs in the office."

Adora wanted to be completely clear. She did not want any misunderstandings.

"Are you sure?" she asked.

Mimi made her viewpoint again. "Positive. You look nice in that outfit anyway."

Adora added "Thanks. Goodnight," as Mimi walked away.

As she drifted off to sleep, lying in Pearl's lap, Adora dreamed about the past, the present, and the future. Nothing like what she had experienced that day in Japan would have ever happened on Etheria. It made her glad to be on Earth and having these experiences. Unknowingly, a time fruit entered her body, making her immortal like Rin and Mimi.

Carmen and Jules slept together in her small apartment in central Tokyo, drained as much as Pearl, Adora, Lapis, Peri, Mimi, and Rin. Time fruits flowed into their bodies as well. Chase had been checked into a hospital, with A.C.M.E. agents watching over him to ensure he didn't become self-destructive again. Hopefully, he *could* enter a rehab facility or clinic in the future.

Meanwhile, in Beach City, Steven and Greg sat on the beach, in front of his house, around a campfire. As they observed the stars of outer space above, Greg posed something that had been bugging him for a while now.

"Schtu-ball, why were you gone for so long on that other planet…Etheria?"

This question surprised Steven. He did not get what his dad meant.

"What do you mean, dad? It was *only* like a week or something, I think. I wasn't keeping the best track of the time we spent there, though."

Greg scoffed. He did not understand why his son could be so wrong. "A week? Ha…it was *four years*."

This boggled Steven's mind. He shouted, "WHAAAT?! *How*? I didn't age at all."

Greg shrugged his shoulders. He told his son, "I don't know, it's probably some funky math and science stuff I don't completely understand…I did read somewhere about how space-time is always moving and not static, often fluctuating wildly and violently with different forms of energy."

Steven then explained how they went through a portal on the way back, and another one on the way there. Greg explained how it was spring 2015 when they left, but *came* back in

spring of this year (2019), noting he had records to prove this. He wondered *why*, since was now early summer, that Gems hadn't told him about it.

Steven said that perhaps the Gems didn't want to worry him. He told his dad, "I trust you...you don't need to show me evidence. I'm glad you told me and am happy to be back here with you, even if I wasn't here for four years."

Hugging him, Greg told him, "I'm relieved you're here too, Schtu-ball."

They proceeded to jam together on guitars to their heart's content as the moonlight lighted their faces. Little did they know but Mimi's thoughts about quantum fluctuation had been correct. Although the reason it had been four years couldn't be ascertained completely, the culprit was obvious. Unknowingly, Perfuma (not Entrapta as some had thought), through the activation of the portal, had tapped into the energies of the Panama Wormhole, creating a quantum time skip, which *only* affected the Gems and Adora when they traveled back to Earth.

In the days ahead, challenges awaited them, which would disrupt their peace and quiet in ways *none* of them would ever expect…

End Notes

I combined parts from the beginnings of episodes 1, 2, 3, and 4 of Mnemosyne / RIN - Daughters of Mnemosyne. I used this post for the height of Carmen Sandiego. Also, the pages for Rin Asogi and Mimi on the RIN: Daughters of Mnemosyne Wiki were used for specific details, along with those for Chase Devineaux from the Carmen Sandiego wiki, and Pearl on the Steven Universe wiki. This would be set eight years after the third episode of RIN: Daughters of Mnemosyne.

I also finally solved the timeline issues with Steven Universe that I had been having. Woohoo! Ākaibu Hyōka Abenyū stands for "Archival appraisal avenue." Mimi's line, "'He didn't even say the phrase right, it's not 'le femme rouge,' its 'la femme rouge,' French for 'the red woman.' Man, this guy is losing his touch!" is actually a joke at myself because the name of this account is due to me mishearing of one of the Carmen Sandiego episodes (I was watching a version without subtitles at the time). I thought it would be a little funny.

Update on 6/14/25: Due to a rash of spam comments, I have restricted comments on this fic to registered users. If you are a guest and want to comment, I'm sorry, but the spammers, with their bots, are the ones that ruined this.

Works inspired by this one

Rise of the Scarlet Wildcat by lefemmerouge

Please drop by the Archive and comment to let the creator know if you enjoyed their work!